



Chicago Federal Executive Board

Building Partnerships for a Better Government

Winter 2014

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OPM Center for Leadership Development Coming to Chicago

This year, OPM's Center for Leadership Development is bringing an unprecedented number of high quality leadership development courses to Chicago. Not only will your agency save on travel costs, but tuition is also reduced for these non-residential programs.

Designed *by* government *for* government, these courses integrate the knowledge and experience of successful Federal leaders who have been in your shoes. Learn from the experts at these upcoming classes in Chicago:

[Resiliency 2.0](#)

Develop resilience in yourself and your workforce

April 15 to 17, 2014 in Chicago, IL

Tuition: \$1,790

[Engaging and Encouraging Employees](#)

Welcome New Chicago FEB Board Chair and Members

Effective October 1, 2013, the following individuals were elected by their peers to lead Chicago's Federal community by focusing on interagency collaboration, workforce development, and emergency response.



SUSAN HEDMAN
Chair

Regional Administrator
Environmental Protection
Agency

Improve workplace satisfaction and boost productivity

April 29 to May 1, 2014 in Chicago, IL

Tuition: \$1,900

[Extraordinary Leadership](#)

Make the transition from good manager to extraordinary leader

June 3 to 6, 2014 in Chicago, IL

Tuition: \$2,400

[Managing the Flexible Workplace](#)

Acquire the tools to create a performance-based workforce, whether they work on site or off

June 17 to 19, 2014 in Chicago, IL

Tuition: \$2,150

[Conflict Resolution Skills](#)

Resolve difficult and uncomfortable situations and turn disagreements into productive workplace discussions

August 5 to 8, 2014 in Chicago, IL

Tuition: \$2,400

It's easy to register. OPM's expedited procurement process means we accept your agency's procurement forms as well as the Government Purchase Card.

Interagency Rotation Opportunity for GS13-15s

Sponsored by the President's Management Council

Our Chicago FEB was selected as one of three FEBs to pilot an interagency rotation program that helps agencies develop future leaders. The President's Management Council will match high-potential GS 13-15s with six-month interagency rotational assignments. This opportunity will enable emerging Federal leaders to expand their management skills, broaden their organizational experience, and foster networks they can leverage in the future.

During a time of limited resources, releasing a top performer for six months is a difficult decision. Please consider our obligation to provide employees with opportunities to develop a broader understanding of government and public leadership.

A key to the program's success is engaged host supervisors who provide meaningful developmental assignments for program participants. To offer a robust range of options for PMC Fellows, consider hosting a 6-month rotation from **June to November 2014**.

To recommend a participant to this program click [here](#), or to serve as a host agency, click [here](#).

JOAN RICARD

Vice Chair

Director

Edward Hines Jr.

VA Medical Center

Department of Veterans Affairs

JON SEBASTIAN

Secretary/ Treasurer

Regional Human Resources

Officer

Department of Labor

New Chicago FEB Executive Committee Members:

KEN BENNETT

Secretary's Representative

Department of Labor

KATHLEEN FALK

Regional Administrator

Department of Health and

Human Services

ROBERT HOLLEY

Special Agent-in-Charge

Chicago Division

Federal Bureau of

Investigation

ANTONIO RILEY

Regional Administrator

Department of Housing and

Urban Development

JEANNETTE TAMAYO

Regional Director

Chicago Regional Office

Economic Development

Administration

[See all board and committee members...](#)



1,100+ Feds Choose Health

FEB event helps employees learn about benefits, healthy eating, and community agriculture

The Chicago FEB's Annual Health and Benefits Fair held November 21 - 22, 2013, welcomed 1,123 Federal employees and retirees to meet with over 25 health benefits providers and vendors. This year was especially valuable to individuals curious about health care reform and what it means for them. During the two-day fair, employees discussed changes to health care plans, collected information from vendors, and received free chair massages and health screenings, including blood pressure and BMI checks.

For the first time, FEB welcomed four local Community Supported Agriculture (CSA's) groups who introduced their concept to our Federal community and talked to employees about signing up to receive regular deliveries of fresh, local produce at a set price.

This year, the WellFeds Committee held their annual Maintain Campaign Weigh-In during the Health Fair and 64 people participated in an effort to maintain their weight during the holiday season. In addition, HIV/AIDS education and testing, sponsored by the Department of Health and Human Services, was offered on a confidential basis. Seven people were tested for HIV at no cost to them.



Want to hear more about our Health and Wellness Programs? Email ChicagoFEB@GSA.GOV and ask to be added to our WellFeds Mailing list.



Volunteer to Help Low-Income Families Find Tax-Relief

Administration for Children and Families partners locally with tax counseling project

The Region V Administration for Children and Families is renewing its partnership with the not-for-profit [Center for Economic Progress' Tax Counseling Project \(TCP\)](#). The TCP is a project in which volunteer tax preparers assist low-income, working families

FEB Event Calendar

2014

January 15

SES Prepare to Lead Series Results Driven (\$58) [Register](#)

January 15

WellFeds Maintain Campaign Weigh-Out

January 15

Combined Federal Campaign Closes

January 20

MLK Day of Service

January through April

Federal Volunteer Tax Preparation for Low Income Families

February 11

SES Prepare to Lead Series Business Acumen (\$58) [Register](#)

April 8

SES Prepare to Lead Series Building Coalitions (\$58) [Register](#)

April 15 -- 17

Resiliency 2.0
Develop resiliency in yourself and your workforce
Presented by OPM Center for

in filing Federal and State tax returns that reflect all available tax benefits, such as the valuable Earned Income Credit (EIC). Last year many Chicagoland Federal volunteers were part of the TCP effort, which helped claim nearly \$30 million in refunds for thousands of Illinois low-income working families.

This year, TCP would like to reach even more clients with this valuable, free service. Informational sessions were held on December 4 and December 9, with 20 participants.



Representatives of the TCP discussed volunteer opportunities which include tax preparers, intake, translators, office assistants, and publicity. All volunteers receive training, and a commitment of a few hours a week from January through April 15 is all that is required.

Additional information about the project, volunteer sites, the training schedule, and the online volunteer sign-up form may be obtained from the Center for Economic Progress at:
www.economicprogress.org/index.php/c/opportunities

[Read more...](#)

Dress For Success Clothing Drive

The 15th Annual “Dress for Success” Clothing Drive sponsored by the FEB Community Service Committee was held December 5 and 6. Federal employees donated gently used business attire to be distributed to the following local charitable organizations with established job training programs:

- Haymarket Center
- National Latino Education Institute (NLEI)
- The Cara Program
- RespondNOW

This year, the drive collected a total of 1,884 donations. Early-drop off was implemented for the first time in order to make donating as easy as possible. Agencies that collected the most donations include the Railroad Retirement Board and Health and Human Services. The U.S. Navy also provided five individuals to staff the

Leadership Development (\$1,790) [Register](#)

April 29

Lunch & Learn
The 5 Steps of Building a Basic Budget [Register](#)

April 29 -- May 1

Engaging and Encouraging Employees: Improve workplace satisfaction and boost productivity.
Presented by OPM's Center for Leadership Development (\$1,900) [Register](#)

May 5 – 9

Public Service Recognition Week – more details to come.

June 3 -- 6

Extraordinary Leadership: Make the transition from good manager to extraordinary leader.
Presented by OPM Center for Leadership Development (\$2,400) [Register](#)

June 17 -- 19

Managing the Flexible Workplace: Acquire the tools to create a performance-based workforce, whether they work on site or off
Presented by OPM's Center for Leadership Development (\$2,150) [Register](#)

June 26

Commemoration of the 50th Anniversary of the Civil Rights Act, Panel Discussion, and Full Board Meeting – More information to come.

August 5 – 8

event.

Call for CFC Screeners

Did you know your Chicago Federal Executive Board reviews hundreds of applications for local non-profits who want to be included in the CFC giving guidebook?

This can only be accomplished with your help! Consider letting your best employees join the FEB team for a one week detail as a CFC screener.

We are looking for 15 talented federal employees who are analysts, accountants, and case examiners (GS-11,12,13) to review non-profit applications.

WHEN

March 31 through April 4, 2014
9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

WHERE

Metcalfe Federal Building
77 W. Jackson Blvd
Chicago FEB Conference Room - Suite 2115
Downtown Chicago

Please send your response to the Chicago FEB at chicagofeb@gsa.gov with the subject line "CFC Screener"



Federal Government Impacts Chicago

Agencies focus on impact, consumer protection, and cost-savings in 2013

The Chicago Federal Executive Board's mediation and local training programs resolved 13 mediation cases and trained more than 1,400 employees in the past year. Collectively, these programs saved \$1.75 million with local training removing the need for some government workers to travel.

Below are a few examples of other contributions made by the Federal community in fiscal year 2013:

[Government Computers Support Chicago Schools](#) (GSA)

[At Army Corps, Sustainability and Stewardship Go Hand-in-Hand](#) (Army Corps of Engineers)

Conflict Resolution Skills: Resolve difficult and uncomfortable situations and turn disagreements into productive workplace discussions
Presented by OPM's Center for Leadership Development
(\$2,400) [Register](#)

FEB Programs

[Combined Federal Campaign](#)

[Community Service Committee](#)

[Diversity Advisory Council](#)

[Emergency Preparedness](#)

[Federal Employee Discounts](#)

[Health & Wellness](#)

[Prepare to Lead \(ECQs\)](#)

[Sustainability](#)

**Money Smart Week
April 5-12, 2014**

**Join the
"At The Workplace Initiative"**
moneysmartweek.org

Money Smart Week® is a public awareness campaign designed to help consumers better manage their personal finances.

Money Smart Week began as a coordinated effort of the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago and the Money Smart Advisory Council – a diverse group of more than 40 Chicago-area organizations

[Social Security Online a big hit in Chicago](#) (SSA)

[Read more here...](#)

Naval Station Reduces Waste with Wind Power, Recycling

On November 14, a group of Federal employees visited [Naval Station Great Lakes](#) to embark on a sustainability tour of campus. Led by environmental engineer, Joe Bozeman III, the group visited different sites which demonstrate how the Navy reduces waste and pools their resources. The tour first stopped at the power plant, which houses the power generator and its controls. The facility was built in 2004 on an area that was formerly a swamp. Beginning with natural gas, two turbines distribute steam and electricity around campus and its neighboring area. The power plant also has the ability to go "off the grid" to supply its own energy.



Next the group got up close and personal with the first windmill added to campus in March of 2013. The challenge for planners was to find just the right location for the 60-meter tower ensuring the structure caused no interference with operations and was not an eye sore to nearby residents. Currently, the windmill supplies 100 kilowatts of energy to roughly 25 homes.

The recycling center was the next stop on the tour. The center's staff of four uses one box van to collect paper, aluminum cans, and cardboard daily from the health care facility, residences, and offices around campus. After these materials are collected, the staff sorts and groups the recyclables before transporting to C&M Recycling for purchase.

The visit concluded at the Captain James A. Lovell Federal Health Care Center, where over 67,000 eligible military and retiree beneficiaries receive care each year. The group visited the health care center's hazardous waste storage container (HazContainer), managed by Mr. Bozeman. This pristine facility serves as a collection site for hazardous waste and toxic materials. Before the installation of HazContainer, which went into full operation on October 1, 2012, the collection effort of such items was disjointed.

working together to promote personal financial literacy.

The goal of the "At The Workplace Initiative" is to bring useful financial information to your employees in your workplace, and leverage the resources of Money Smart Week® to your organization's benefit.

- Interested in promoting Money Smart Week?

Contact:
Tiffany.Butler@chi.frb.org
for further information.

-Do you want to offer a financial education seminar or activity for your employees during the scheduled week at your workplace?

Contact:
(630)466-7095
to start scheduling

moneysmartweek.org

We want to hear from you.

Do you want to promote your agency's events & accomplishments?

Tell us your agency's story by emailing us at chicagofeb@gsa.gov

Having a single destination point for hazardous waste has streamlined the process.

Sustainability efforts at Naval Station Great Lakes are nothing short of impressive and admirable. FEB staff members enjoyed the tour and exploring the campus to catch a glimpse of operations at a different agency. [Read more here...](#)

FEB Offers Leadership Training for Future SESs

'Prepare to Lead' develops potential senior executive staff



The Executive Core Qualifications (ECQs) define the competencies needed to build a Federal corporate culture that drives for results, serves customers, and builds successful teams and coalitions within and outside the organization. The FEB offers a series of five classes that focus on organizational leadership and management that directly pertain to the five Federal ECQs and their underlying competencies to apply for the Senior Executive Service.

The next class is “Results Driven,” scheduled for January 15, 2014. After completing this module, participants will be able to:

- Demonstrate personal accountability for achieving measurable results, accepting responsibility for mistakes, and complying with established control systems and rules.
- Deliver high-quality products and services and anticipate the needs of internal and external customers.
- Make well-informed, effective and timely decisions that consider the impact and long-term implications on people and operations that are directly and indirectly affected.

Classes are held at Metcalfe Federal Building, 77 W. Jackson, Room 331, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The cost is \$58 per class, or \$275 for all five. To register visit www.chicago.feb.gov.

Pro Bono Fair

On Friday, December 6, legal experts attended the Pro Bono Fair held at the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation in Chicago. Special Guest Michael Bergmann, Executive Director, Public Interest Law Initiative discussed the “new rule” allowing out-of-state attorneys to do pro bono work in Illinois. He also included easy steps to getting started on a pro bono project. The following organizations were featured at the free event:

- Cabrini Green Legal Aid
- CARPLS
- The Center for Conflict Resolution
- The Constitutional Rights Foundation of Chicago
- Center for Disability and Elder Law
- Chicago Volunteer Legal Services (CVLS)
- The Domestic Violence Legal Clinic

Want to hear more about programs for the legal community?
Email ChicagoFEB@GSA.GOV and ask to be added to our FEBLegal mailing list.

Bulls vs. Wizards - Monday, January 13th

Government employees, friends and family have the opportunity to purchase Chicago Bulls tickets at a dramatic discount!

Tickets (100 Level) regularly priced at \$140 are just \$85 and tickets priced at \$125 are \$75.

Tickets (300 Level, rows 1-7) regularly priced at \$75 are just \$40.

Tickets are *very limited* so be sure to act fast!

To take advantage of this exclusive opportunity [CLICK HERE](#). Federal Employee Discount code is **Bulls**.

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Read the [FEB Strategic and Operational Plan 2013-2017](#)

The Chicago Federal Executive Board (FEB) represents over 55,000 Federal employees, postal employees, and military personnel. They work for 43 agencies in 186 offices located in the metropolitan Chicago area that includes the eleven county area of: Cook, DuPage, McHenry, Lake, Will, Grundy, DeKalb, Kendall, and Kane counties in Illinois, and Lake and Porter counties in Indiana.